

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Responsive to the Office Action dated April 18, 2006, Applicant appreciates the Examiner's suggestions during the telephone interview with Applicant's attorney on June 9, 2006. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicant has canceled Claims 1-56 and has added new claims 57-112. Accordingly, Claims 57-112 are now pending for prosecution with Claims 57, 68, 79, 90, 101, 111 and 112 being independent.

I. Claim Objections

Applicant has canceled Claims 43 and 45 thereby rendering the claim objections moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections.

II. Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant has canceled Claims 1, 4-12, 23, 42, and 45-52 thereby rendering the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicant has canceled all previously pending claims thereby rendering the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 moot. As agreed in the telephone interview, new claims 57-112 all contain a limitation directed to the independent vacuums for the perimeter seal and the interfacing surface of the flexible body structure of Applicant's closed molding tool. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections.

IV. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits the claims are in condition for formal allowance which is courteously solicited. If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard. Should any fees be necessitated by this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct such fees from Deposit Account No. 11-0160.

Respectfully submitted,

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